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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest Chaplain, Dr. Hayes Wicker, Jr., of the First Baptist Church, Naples, FL.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Hayes Wicker, Jr., offered the following prayer:

Lord, we praise You as supreme sovereign; from You, through You, and to You are all things. By You we were created; in You we trust; in Your word we hope. We humble ourselves today and, Lord, we ask that You would forgive us for the pride of thinking that we are self-made. Forgive us when we desire justice on earth but not in eternity. It's not easy to live right side up in an upside down world. Help those on both sides of the aisle in the Senate to be on the Lord's side and not to be neutral with national or personal evil. Father, steel our wills to do righteousness, to defend those who cannot defend themselves, and to pursue justice for all.

God, bless America and shed Your grace on us, not because we deserve it but because of Your mercy and because the world so desperately needs a lighthouse of truth. We thank You that recent horrific events that were meant for evil can be molded into good and, Lord, we ask that You would give protection, not mainly for our lifestyle but for Your glory, for liberty, and for our children and future generations.

Father, we pray for those who are mourning right now, but we thank You that they do not mourn as those who have no hope, and we do not remember as those who have no anchor.

Lord, we ask You right now to help these leaders to be faithful, to fight the good fight, to finish the course, and to keep the faith. Give us divine wisdom today and not just a human agenda. God bless our President with the smile

of Your approval and the light of Your guidance. In the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 26, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CLINTON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, there will be 30 minutes of morning business equally divided between the two leaders today. We expect to consider the Military Construction Appropriations Act today. We have not yet received it

from the House, but we understand it is on its way. The two managers of the bill, who have been working on the Defense authorization bill, are at the Pentagon now. We expect them to return shortly. They have some amendments they have cleared.

As the majority leader announced last night, it is not certain we will proceed with the Defense bill. We are trying very hard, before 2 p.m. today, to have a finite list of amendments. A couple of Members were unwilling to give us a list. As has been mentioned by the two managers of the bill, Senators LEVIN and WARNER, and the majority leader, Senator DASCHLE, this bill is very important.

We have a state of emergency in this country, and it will send a very bad message to the men and women we have in the service that we cannot pass a Defense bill today. So we are hopeful and confident those two Senators who have been unwilling to allow us to have a finite list of amendments will allow us to do that. If they do not, as the majority leader said, he will have no choice but to pull this bill.

We have the airline legislation we need to complete to make sure that passengers are safe. We have important legislation dealing with employees who are left without work as a result of the terrible tragedy in New York. We have to do that. We have 12 appropriations bills that have not been completed yet. We have a lot of work to do, and therefore we need to complete the Defense bill soon. If we have to wait, with no finite list of amendments when we come back, we probably will not be able to complete it, which will be a shame.

There will be rollcall votes through the morning, with the last one being at 2 p.m. today. There will be no rollcall votes on Thursday or Friday. The leader has indicated there will be a late vote Monday afternoon more than likely.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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